



FACE THE MOMENT

Executive Orders of the Trump Administration

Introduction

The president has issued over 100 executive orders covering various policies, some of which faced legal challenges. Executive orders allow the president to direct government actions but cannot override laws passed by Congress. They take effect immediately or require additional steps by government agencies.

Trump's use of executive orders has raised concerns, especially when they undermine civil rights, health equity, and social justice. While executive orders can be useful, they can also cause harm. Courts, Congress, and future presidents can overturn them if they are unconstitutional or against federal law.

What Is an Executive Order? How Is It Different from a Law?

An executive order is a directive from the president telling the government how to enforce existing laws. It can set priorities, guide federal agencies, and shape policies, but it cannot create new laws or override Congress.

In contrast, laws must be passed by Congress and signed by the president (or passed over a veto). Congress also controls taxation, spending, and major decisions like declaring war.


Think of it this way: Congress sets the rules, and executive orders help determine how those rules are carried out.

How Can Executive Orders Be Stopped?

Executive orders are powerful tools, but they're not unstoppable. There are three main ways they can be overturned:

- **Congressional Action** – If Congress has the authority, it can pass a law that reverses an executive order.
- **Court Challenges** – If an executive order violates the Constitution or federal law, courts can strike it down.
- **Future Presidents** – A new president can undo or change an existing executive order.

These checks and balances help ensure executive orders align with our laws and democratic principles.



Executive Order 14159: Protecting the American People Against Invasion

**January 20
2025**

This Presidential order aims to strengthen immigration enforcement across the United States, particularly targeting individuals who are in the country illegally and may pose threats to national security and public safety. The order revokes previous policies from the prior administration and prioritizes the swift removal of individuals unlawfully in the U.S., including through increased detention and collaboration with state and local law enforcement. It also establishes task forces to dismantle criminal organizations, and it focuses on ensuring that all public benefits are denied to those unlawfully present. Additionally, the order encourages voluntary departure for illegal immigrants and tightens penalties for violating immigration laws.

Community Impact

- The order puts a strong focus on executing immigration laws, which will likely increase the workload for agencies like U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). This could lead to more resources needed for enforcement and detention.
- There will be a review of federal funds allocated to organizations supporting illegal aliens, potentially cutting or reassigning these resources. This could affect the operations of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in immigration services.
- The order directs agencies to stop providing public benefits to unauthorized immigrants, which may lead to changes in how federal programs interact with immigrants, potentially restricting access for those without legal status.
- The order mandates an increase in the number of immigration enforcement officers, which could lead to more hiring within federal agencies. This expansion could increase costs for immigration-related services but also improve enforcement capabilities.